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ABSTRACT

A publication on the history and traditional lifestyle of the Dogrib Tribe of Canada's Northwest Territories is intended for use in grades 1-3. Text is printed in large, clear letters and accompanied by many drawings. Some subjects covered are cooking, food, canoes, clothes, homes, and games. Sections are devoted to beavers and caribou and their importance to the Dogrib people. Chief Jimmy Bruneau, who was a chief for 30 years, and his efforts to provide a school for Dogrib children are covered. Fire, school, hunting and fishing methods, tools and weapons, the Hudson's Bay Company, dogs, and the spruce tree are also described. (MH)

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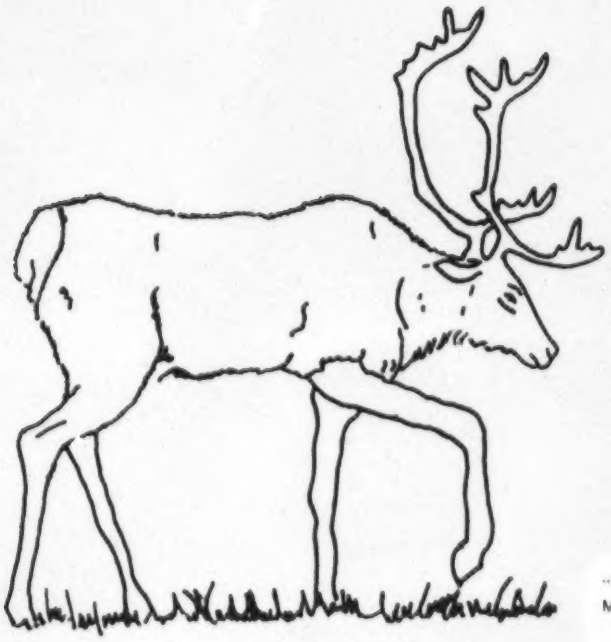
A Dogrib History



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Grade 1 - 3

Northwest Territories Education

RC 014501

A DOGRIB HISTORY
Grade 1-3

This publication is part of a project developed by Tara Fraser in Rae-Edzo. Tara received "The History and Social Science Teacher" Award of Merit" in 1982 for her research into the history and traditional lifestyle of the Dogrib.

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1983

COOKING

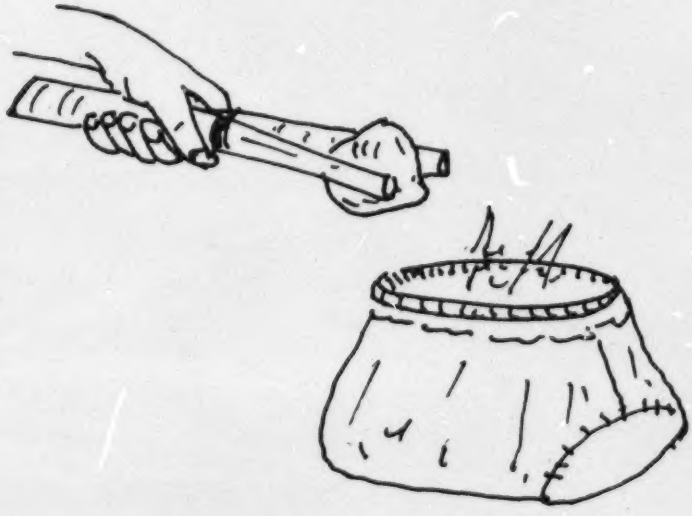
Cooking pots were made with birch bark.

Hot rocks were put in the pots.

The fire made the rocks hot.

Women used sticks to hold the hot rocks.

Meat was cooked on a stick.



k'ihtɂ

This is a caribou stomach being used as a cooking pot.

2.

FOOD

Caribou was the best food.

Dry meat was good to take for a picnic.

Fish was good too.

Sometimes rabbit and bear meat was good.

Birds, ducks and geese were good to eat in the spring.

The children and moms collected eggs in the spring.

In the fall there were all kinds of berries.

3.

Some of the women took the syrup from the birch tree.

It was good to drink. It was like sweet water.

Some of the berries and flowers were used to make nice colors on the caribou hide.

The moms made flour from some of the plants.

4.

This is Rock Tripe.

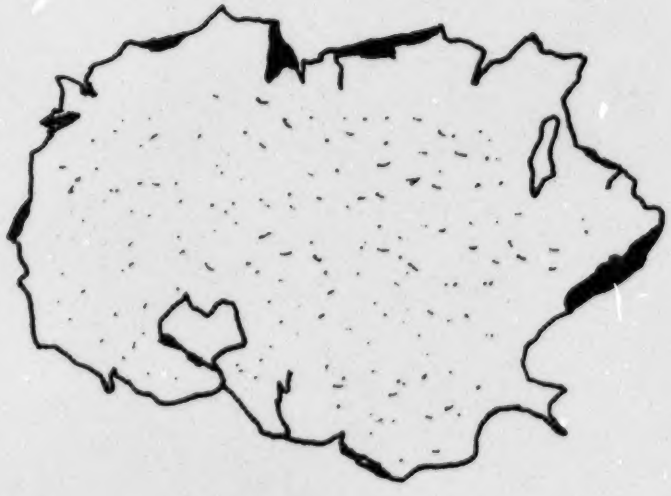
The Dogribs used this for food and medicine.

It was good in soup or stew.

it was good to mix with fish or meat.

If you had a cold it was a good medicine.

If you had a bad tummy it was good medicine.



5.

CANOES

A canoe is made from birch bark.

The men cut the wood.

The ladies cut the bark.

The ladies got the long roots.

The kids got the gum from the trees.

The grandmas chewed the gum to make it soft.

Everybody made the cane.

Long ago when the Dogrib Indians made canoes, the whole family helped make it.

It was not a heavy canoe. It was easy to carry.

They could make a canoe in about 10 to 18 days.

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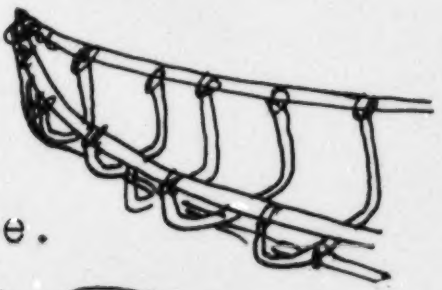
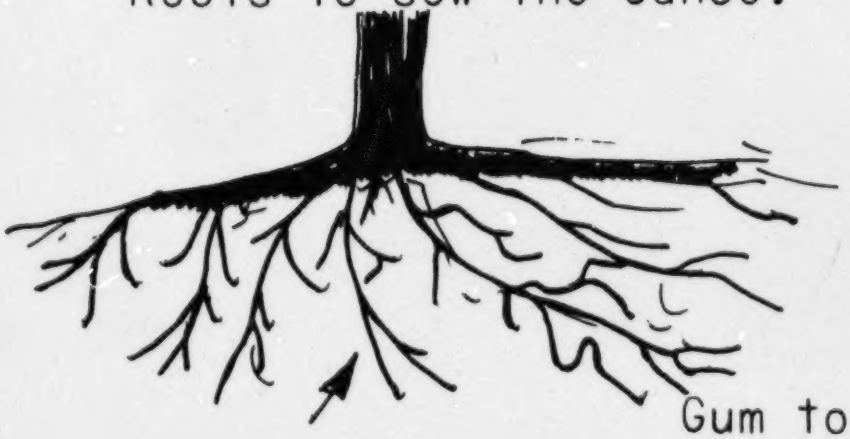
This is a birch bark canoe.



Bark to cover the frame.

Roots to sew the canoe.



Gum to keep
the water out.

8.

CLOTHES

The Dogribs used to wear clothes made from the skins of caribou.

The moms worked very hard to scrape the hides.

The moms worked very hard to tan the hides.

Then the moms smoked the hides to make them soft,

She cut all the clothes out.

She sewed all the clothes with sinew.

In the summer the clothes were made from scraped hides.

In the winter everybody wore their summer clothes, but on top they had winter clothes.

9.

The winter clothes were made the same way but the hair was not scraped off.

The baby had a little shirt and hat to wear.

They were made with bleached (white) caribou hide.

The baby stayed warm in a moss bag.

The baby had a diaper which was filled with moss.

The moms made moccasins for the whole family.

Mom had a dress of hide.

Dad had pants and a shirt of hide.

The mitts, jacket and bags were all made from hide.

HOMES

The Dogribs made houses out of branches from the spruce tree.

The Dogribs made houses out of caribou hides.

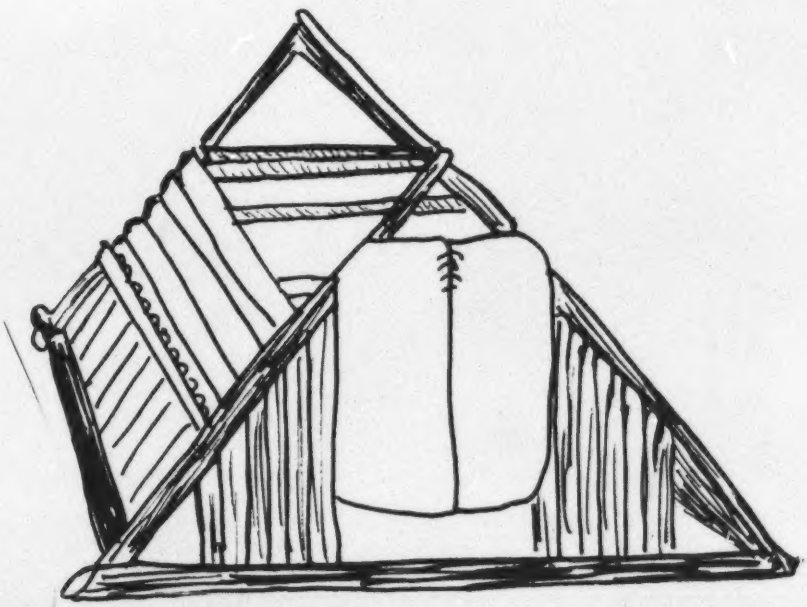
Sometimes they made houses out of wood and hides.

Some of the hides were hairy.

Some of the skins were not hairy.

The Dogribs lived in tipis most of the time.

The tipis were made from hides.



The tipis were made from birch bark.

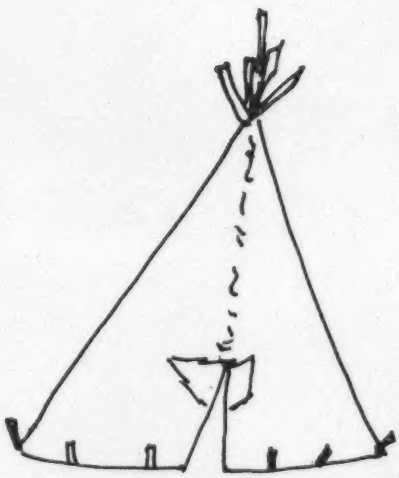
The Dogribs lived in tents.

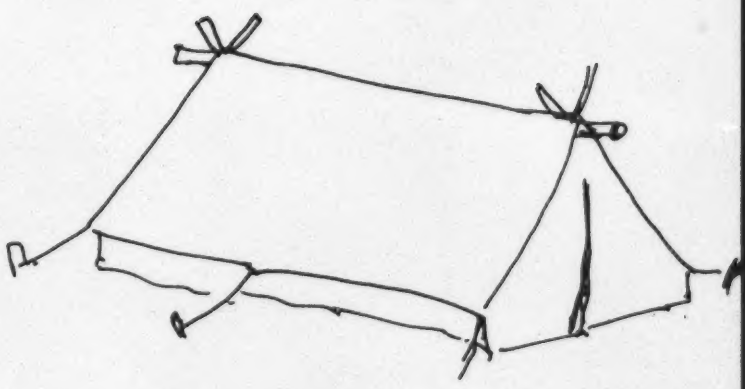
The tents were made from carvas.

Some Dogribs lived in log houses.

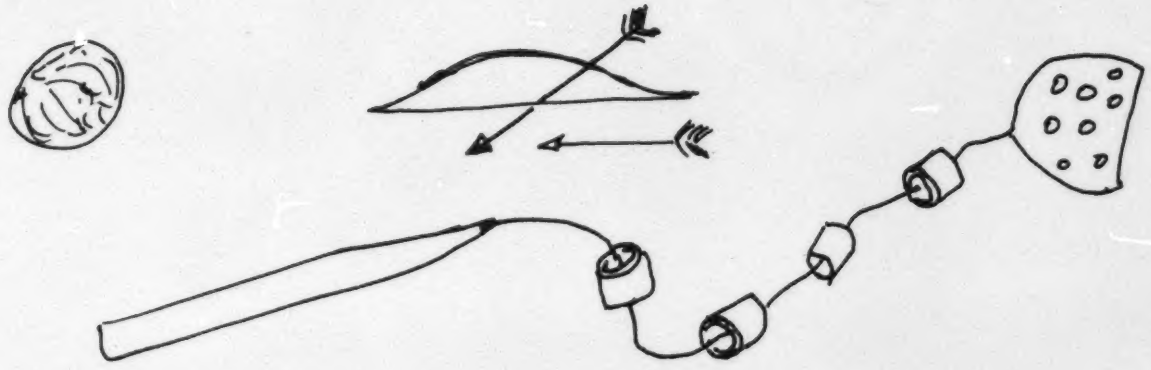
Now the Dogribs live in houses in Fort Rae.

When they go to the bush, they still live in tents.





GAMES



The Dogribs liked to play games.

The boys and men played games.

The women and girls played games sometimes.

The boys ran races to make them good hunters.

The boys played with bows and arrows to make them good hunters.

The boys played games of hide and find.

13.

Moms and Dads played with a ball.
The ball was made of hide.
The ball was filled with moss.

Some games were made of wood.
Some games were made of bones.
Some games were played in the tipi.
Some games were played outside.

14.

BEAVERS

The beaver is brown.

The beaver is furry.

The beaver fur is good.

The beaver lives in the water.

He makes his house out of sticks and mud.

There are two doors in his house.

There is a back door.

There is a front door.

The house is called a lodge.

tsà

15.

lodge

The beaver uses his feet to do different different things.

The beaver uses his back feet to swim fast.

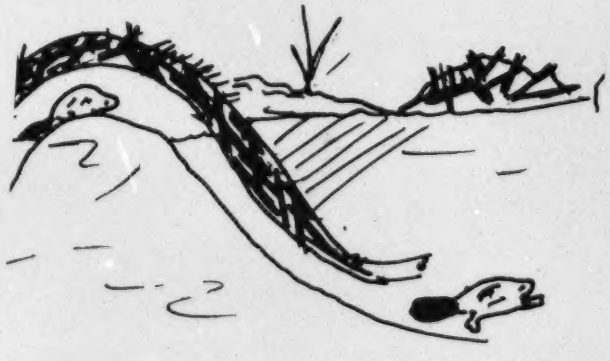
The beaver uses his front feet like hands.

He can hold food in his front feet.

He likes to eat willows.

He likes to eat birch.

inside the lodge.

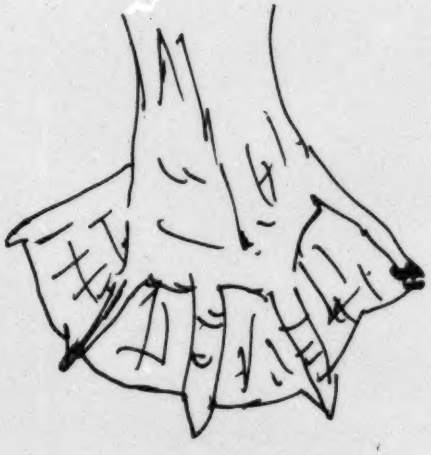


16.

One front foot.

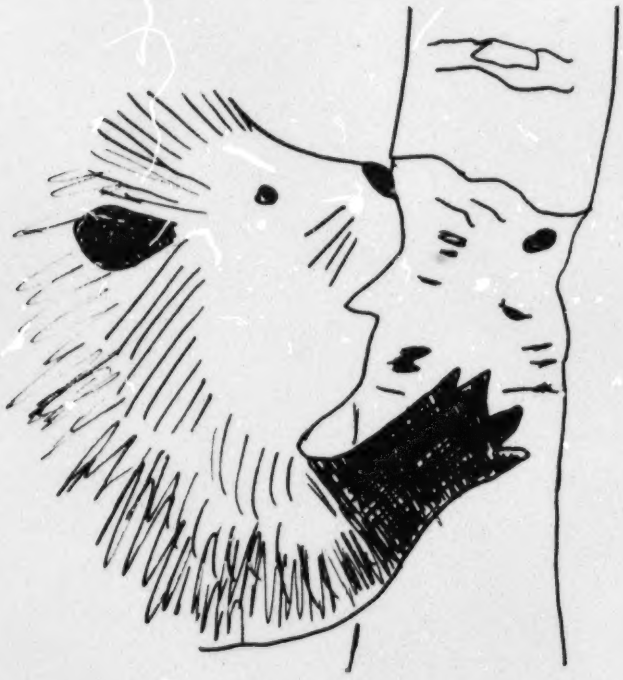
The beaver has good teeth.

The beaver can cut down a tree with his teeth.



One back foot.

17.

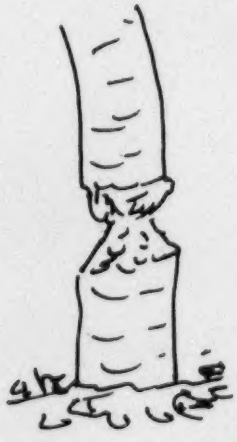


The beaver likes to swim.

The beaver makes his own swimming pool.

The beaver makes a dam.

The dam stops the water from running away.



The water is held back by lots and lots of sticks.

The dam is very strong.

This is a dam. Can you find where the beaver has made his house?

OLD FORT RAE

Old Fort Rae was on an island.

It was a good island.

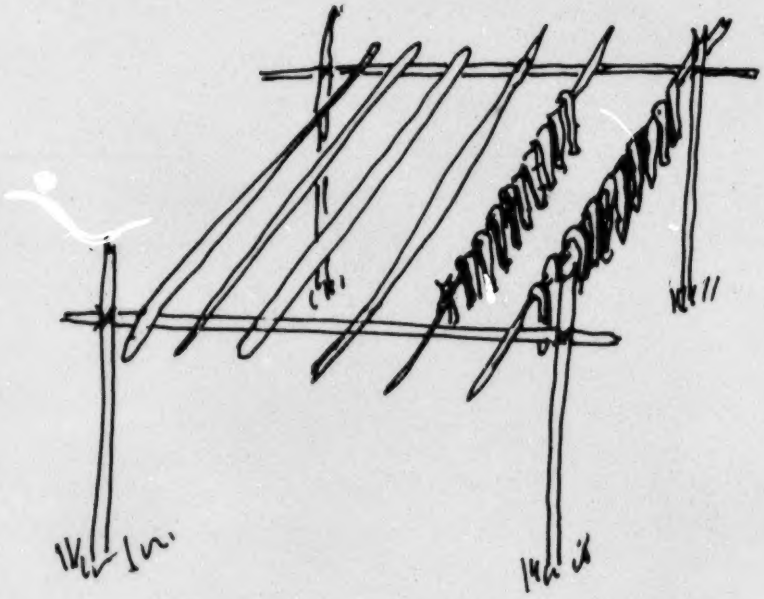
There were a lot of trees.

There were lots of fish.

The caribou went near Old Fort Rae.

The Dogrib made the dry meat.

The dry meat was for the trader.



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The dry meat was for the men on the boats.

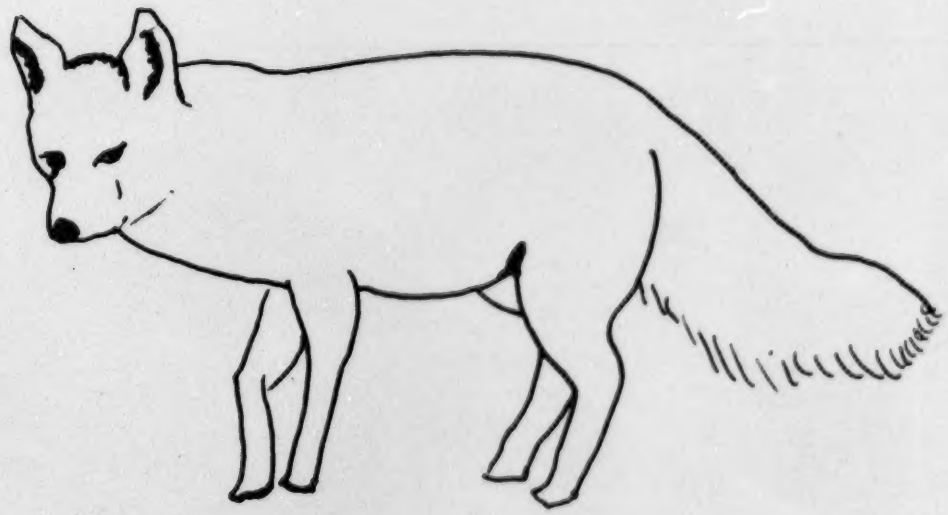
The dry meat was to feed the Indians going to the Bay trading post.

The dry meat was to feed the Indians going home from the trading post.

The Bay trading post was moved.

The Bay trading post was in Old Fort Rae.

The Bay trading post moved to Fort Rae.



CHIEF JIMMY BRUNEAU

Jimmy Bruneau was a good chief.

Jimmy Bruneau was a chief for 30 years.

He wanted a school for the children of the Dogribs.

Now the children have a school.

A big school.

It is called the Chief Jimmy Bruneau School.

He was an old man when the school was built.

Everybody liked the old chief.

CARIBOU

The Caribou.

The caribou is a big animal.

The Dogrib people eat lots of caribou.

The meat is good to eat cooked or dried.

Dogribs have always hunted the caribou.

They used to hunt them with bows and arrows.

Now they kill them with a gun.

25.

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Caribou have hard feet.

These hard feet are called hooves.

Caribou feet are good for the snow,
the rocks and the muskeg.

Caribou have brown hair and white hair.

The white hair keeps them warm
in the winter.

When the snow falls the caribou
walk to the trees where it is warm.

They use their feet

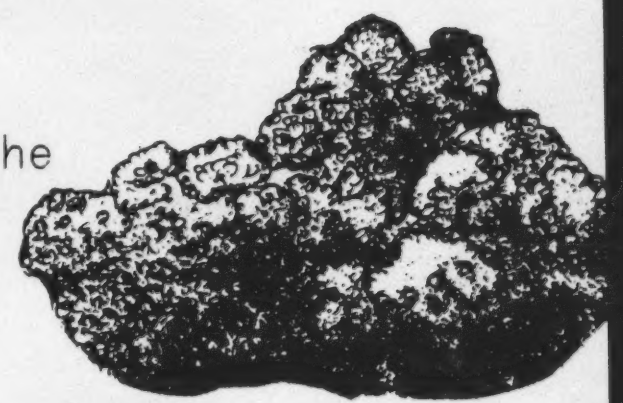
to dig up food

which is under the snow.

The caribou run very fast.

They can swim very well in cold water.

Every year they go to the Barrens.



The bugs are bad on the Barrens.

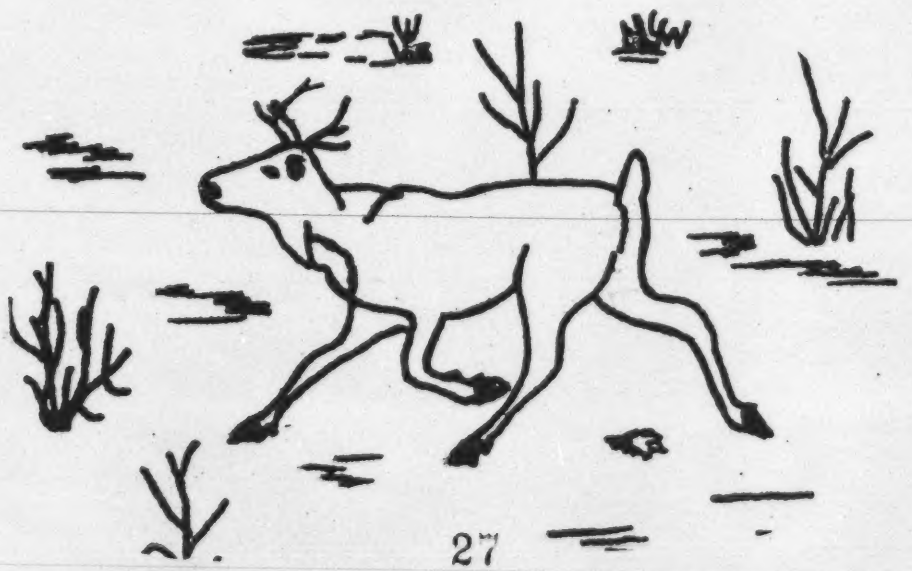
The bugs can make the caribou run far.

The caribou walk a long way.

Caribou walk a long way to get food.

Caribou eat moss and leaves.

Caribou eat mushrooms too.



The Barrenland caribou like to stay in a big bunch.

They walk in long lines.

The baby caribou are born in May.

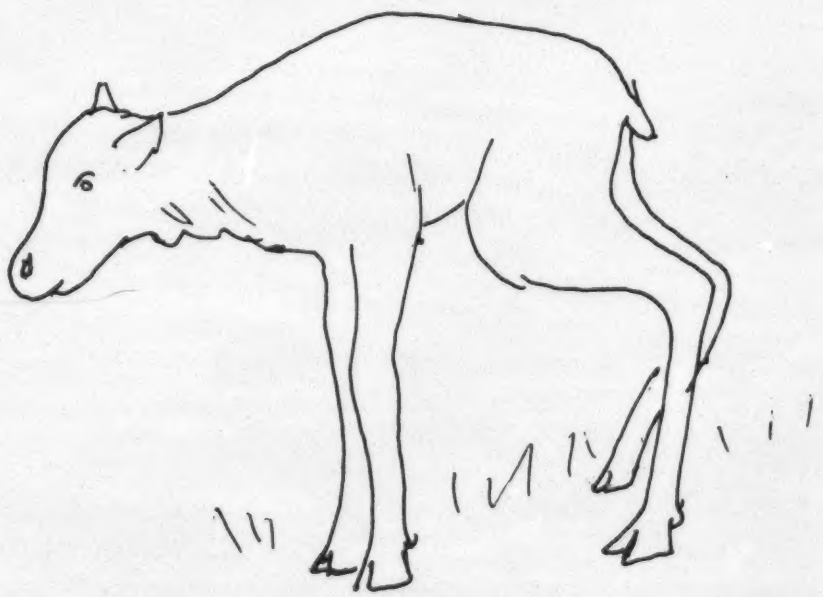
They walk with their mothers very soon.

If they stay behind they will get lost.

A wolf will try to kill a baby caribou.

They must listen to their mother.

The Dogribs like to hunt the caribou.



28.

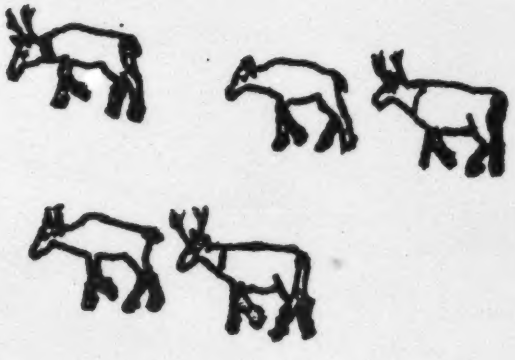
The Dogrib Indians use the bones from the caribou legs to make scrapers for the hides.

Bones from the feet are used to make a game.

Fall hides are used to make clothes.

Raw hide is used to make drums.

Raw hides make babiche for snowshoe lacing.



FIRE

The Dogribs made fire in the bush.

The Dogribs made fire with a stick.

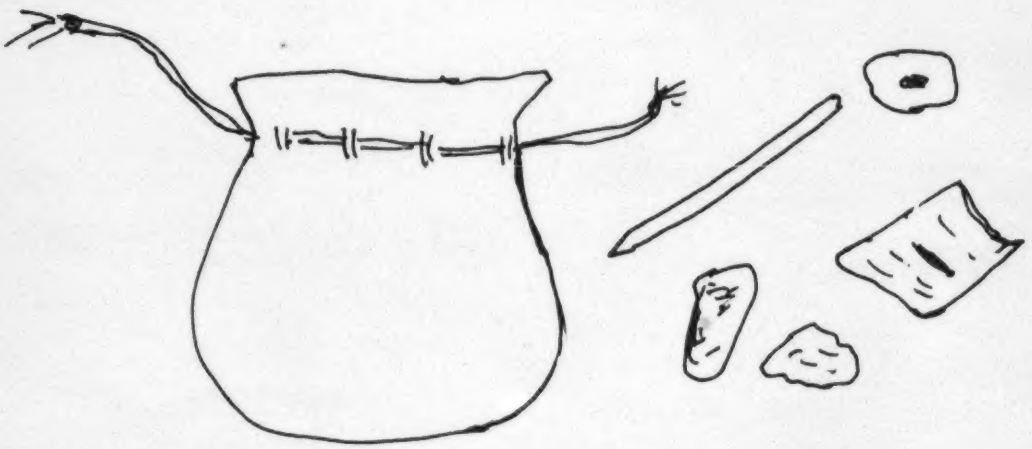
The Dogribs made a fire with rocks.

The fire was warm.

The fire was a good light.

The Dogribs carry a little fire bag.

In the bag there is some birch bark, some moss and the rocks to start the fire.



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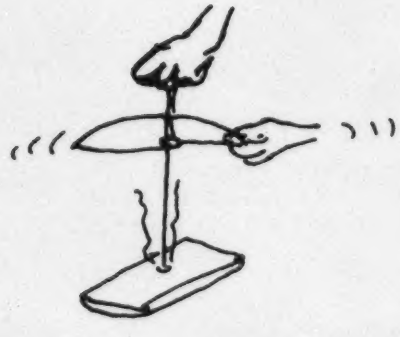
The Dogribs did not have matches.

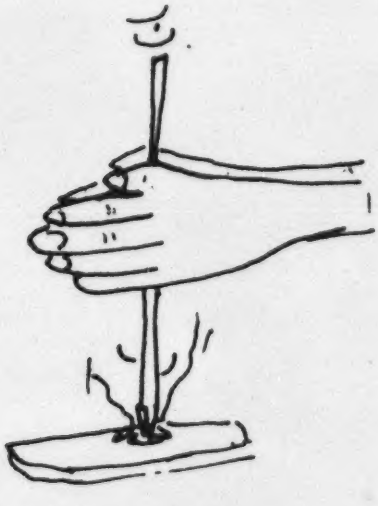
The Dogribs now buy matches at the store.

A fire was used for cooking.

A fire was used for light.

A fire was used to keep away the big animals and the bugs.





32.

SCHOOL

When your mom or dad went to school they had to go far away.

They had to go far away in a boat.

Some boys and girls were happy.

Some boys and girls were sad.

They did not see their moms and dads for a long time.

33.

HUNTING AND FISHING

The men made bows and arrows.

The men made spears.

The men made snares.

The men carried arrows in a bag.

This bag was called a quiver.

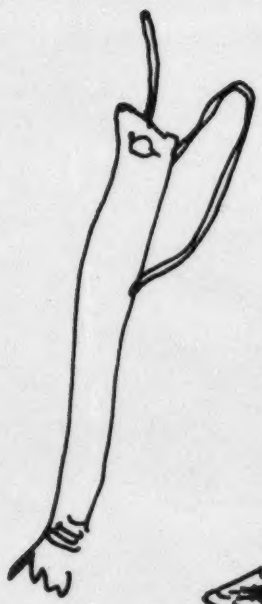
The arrows were made out of wood, babiche, rocks and bones.

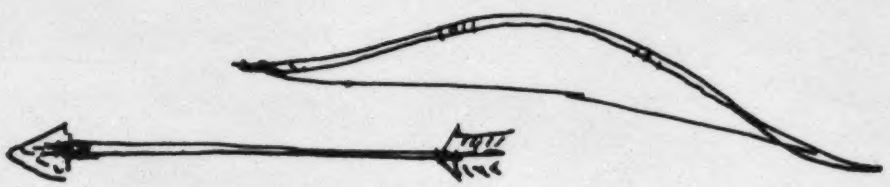
The men made traps.

The men made deadfalls.

The men made clubs.

Caribou were caught in big snares.





35.

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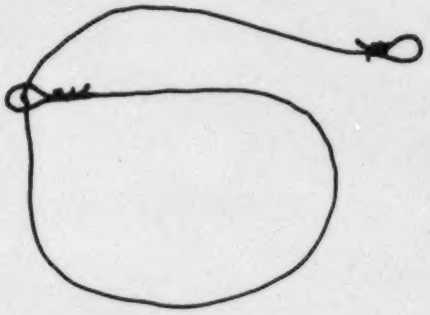
The snare was made of babiche.
The snare was strong.
The men in Rae use steel traps now.

Men did some fishing with nets.
Men did some fishing with hooks.
Men did some fishing with spears.
Lots of fish are caught in a net.
One or two fish are caught on a hook.
One or two fish are caught with a spear.
Men fish in the summer with nets.
Men fish in the winter with nets.

This is a snare made out of babiche.

It is very strong.



This is a man setting a steel trap.

37.

What do you think this man is doing?

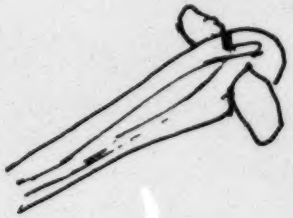
He is calling an animal.

Which animal do you think he is calling?

TOOLS AND WEAPONS

Awl for making holes

Club for killing small animals



Hammer

For digging

Bone club and a stone club for killing

An axe

Men use an ede for the ice.

Men use a tigwa for the ice.

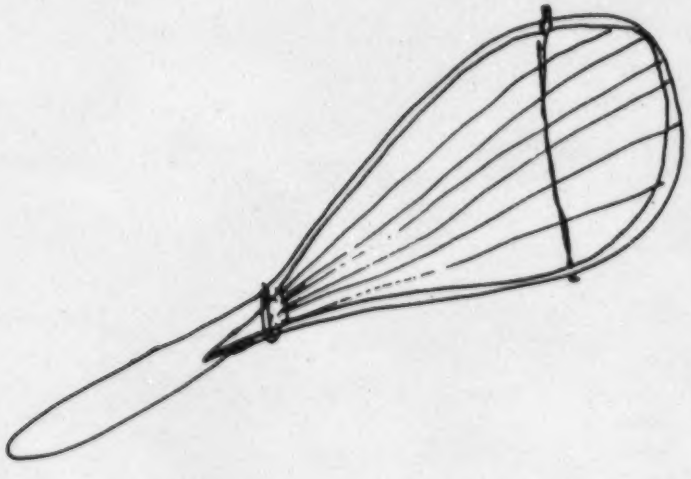
The Dogrib men and women eat lots of fish.

The women make dry fish.

The women cut the fish.

The women hang the fish on a rack.

This is where the fish dry.



HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY

The Bay buys furs from the trapper.

In the old days the Bay wanted dry meat.

In the old days the Bay wanted furs.

The Bay wanted to buy muskox robes.

Robes are the skin of the muskox.

The robes are good and warm.

When there are no caribou to hunt the Dogrib hunted muskox.

There are no muskox here now.

41.

DOGS

The Dogrib use dogs to pull a toboggan.

The Dogrib women used to pull a toboggan.

The dogs eat fish.

The dogs work hard.

The dogs can smell caribou.

The dogs run to the caribou.

It is good to take dogs on a caribou hunt.

In the old days the dogs went in the canoes sometimes.

THE SPRUCE TREE

The spruce tree grows in the bush.

The Dogrib use the spruce tree.

The Dogrib make houses form it.

Snowshoes are made from the wood of a spruce tree.

Drums and tipis are made from the wood of the spruce tree.

In the old days toboggans were made from it.

Needles for fishnets were made from it.

Canoe paddles were made from it.

43.

A dead spruce tree makes a good fire.

The fire makes smoke.

The smoke is good for keeping the bugs away.

The smoke is good for tanning hides.

The roots were used to sew baskets.

The roots were used to sew canoes.

The gum sticks things together.

The gum is good to chew.